

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 04525 140845Z

11

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 AEC-11 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 RSR-01 /041 W

----- 080302

R 140630Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1505

INFO AMCONSUL BRISBANE

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 4525

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, ENRG, AS,PP

SUBJ: POSSIBLE BECHTEL SITE STUDY IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

REF: CANBERRA 4080

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED CONTRADICTIONARY RESPONSES FROM  
GOA ELEMENTS CONTACTED RE THIS SUBJECT.

2. ON AUGUST 7 EMBASSY INFORMED BY TELEPHONE THAT, IN  
OPINION DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL TERRITORIES (DET) "NEXT  
STEP SHOULD BE CONSULTATION BETWEEN PAPUA NEW GUINEA (PNG)  
AUTHORITIES AND COMMERCIAL ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED." ANY  
GOA OBJECTIONS WOULD BE MADE KNOWN THROUGH PNG GOVT.

3. INASMUCH AS DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (DFA) HAD  
ALSO BEEN CONTACTED IN EFFORT TO EXPEDITE RESPONSE,  
EMBASSY REQUESTED DFA CONFIRMATION THIS POSITION BEFORE  
INFORMING DEPARTMENT. ALAN BROWN, ACTING ASSISTANT  
SECRETARY, ECONOMIC POLICY BRANCH, DESCRIBED DET REPLY  
AS "INTERESTING" BUT REQUESTED EMBASSY WITHOLD FURTHER  
ACTION UNTIL FURTHER WORD FROM DFA.

4. ON AUGUST 13, BROWN COMMENTED TO EMBOFF DURING  
CALL ON OTHER MATTERS THAT HE HAD NOT YET BEEN ABLE  
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REACH RESPONSIBLE OFFICER IN DET BUT EXPECTED DO SO

WITHIN NEXT DAY OR SO AND BE IN TOUCH WITH EMBASSY.  
EXPLAINED THAT DIFFICULT AS FAR AS DFA CONCERNED  
WAS POSSIBLE IMPLICATION IN GOA APPROVAL THAT SOURCE  
OF URANIUM FOR ENRICHMENT WOULD BE AUSTRALIA. THIS  
WOULD NOT BE CONSISTENT WITH VIEWS OF MINISTER MINERALS  
AND ENERGY CONNOR WHO BROWN SAID WAS PUBLICLY COMMITTED  
TO POLICY OF NOT SUPPLYING URANIUM TO NON-SIGNATORIES  
NON PROLIFERATION TREATY.

5. COMMENT. THIS IS SECOND VERSION OF GOA BUREACRACY'S  
APPREHENSION OVER POSSIBLE CONNOR OBJECTIONS THIS PROJECT  
(PARA 2 REFTTEL), EMBASSY WILL RELAY ANY RESPONSE RECEIVED  
WHEN AVAILABLE BUT DOES NOT CONSIDER IT ADVISABLE PRESS  
GOA FURTHER AT THIS POINT.  
GREEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 AUG 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973CANBER04525  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** CANBERRA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730839/aaaabcbwg.tel  
**Line Count:** 76  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION SCI  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** CANBERRA 4080  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 OCT 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <23-Oct-2001 by eisnerah>; APPROVED <28 FEB 2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

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30 JUN 2005

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**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** POSSIBLE BECHTEL SITE STUDY IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA  
**TAGS:** TECH, ENRG, AS, PP  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005